CLAIMS

1. A computer-based method of visually delineating lineage between related graphical objects comprising:

creating a graphic symbol, said graphic symbol having a specified pattern, and associating it with at least a first graphical object;

designating one or more color attributes for said graphic symbol;

displaying one or more related graphical objects;

retaining said created graphic symbol, its specified pattern and color attributes within said one or more displayed related graphical objects, and

wherein said one or more objects are recognizable as related to said first objects by the persistence of said specified graphic symbol pattern and designated colors.

2. A computer-based method of visually delineating lineage between related graphical windows as per claim 1, wherein said created graphic symbol, its specified pattern and color attributes is retained within a visible portion of one or more related objects.

3. A computer-based method of visually delineating lineage between related graphical windows as per claim 1, wherein said created graphic symbol, its specified pattern and color attributes is retained within a graphical image visible within one or more or said related objects.

4. A computer-based method of visually delineating lineage between related graphical windows as per claim 1, wherein said first and one or more of said related objects are located within a single graphical user interface.

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5. A computer-based method of visually delineating lineage between related graphical windows as per claim 1, wherein said graphic symbol and persistence of color between said first and second objects provides user assistance when traversing a series of graphical templates.

6. A computer-based method of visually delineating lineage between related graphical windows as per claim 1, wherein said group of related objects comprise any of: graphical windows, toolbars, rulers, wizards, titlebars, tables and icons.

7 A computer-based method of delineating lineage between a first object and a related object comprising:

creating an icon representing a first object;

designating at least a color scheme for said icon;

creating a second object related to said first object;

retaining said icon and color scheme of said first object within a visible area of

said second related object, and

wherein said second object is recognizable as related to said first object by the persistence of said icon and color scheme.

8. A computer-based method of delineating lineage between a first object and a related object as per claim 7, wherein said first and second objects are located within a graphical user interface.

9. A computer-based method of delineating lineage between a first object and a related object as per claim 7, wherein the persistence of said icon and color scheme between said first and second objects provides user assistance when traversing a series of graphical templates.

10. A computer-based method of delineating lineage between a first object and a related object as per claim 7, wherein said related objects comprise any of: graphical windows, toolbars, rulers, wizards, title bars, tables and icons.

11. A computer-based method of delineating lineage between a first object and a related object as per claim 9, wherein said first and one or more of said related objects are located within a single graphical user interface.

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12. A computer-based method of graphically illustrating a progressive relationship between a series of related graphical objects comprising:

creating one or more icons for a first graphical object;

creating a color scheme for said one or more icons;

including at least one of said one or more icons and associated color scheme within said first graphical object;

progressing through a series of graphical objects related to said first graphical object, said one or more related graphical objects to reflect an evolution of progression of development of said first graphical object, and

wherein said progression retains said at least one of said one or more icons and associated color schemes within each of said related graphical objects.

13. A computer-based method of graphically illustrating a progressive relationship between a series of related graphical objects as per claim 12, wherein the persistence of said icon and color scheme between said first and second objects provides user assistance when traversing a series of graphical templates.

14. A computer-based method of graphically illustrating a progressive relationship between a series of related graphical objects as per claim 12, wherein said related objects

collectively comprise a user assistance wizard.

15. A computer program product for use with a graphics display device, said computer program product comprising:

a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means included in said medium:

said computer readable program code means embodying a method for:

creating a graphic symbol, said graphic symbol having a specified pattern, and associating it with at least a first graphical object;

designating one or more color attributes for said graphic symbol;

displaying one or more related graphical objects;

retaining said created graphic symbol, its specified pattern and color attributes within said one or more displayed related graphical objects, and

wherein said one or more objects are recognizable as related to said first objects by the persistence of said specific graphic symbol pattern and designated colors.

16. A computer program product for use with a graphics display device, said computer program product as per claim 15, wherein said created graphic symbol, its specified pattern and color attributes is retained within a visible portion of one or more related objects.

17. A computer program product for use with a graphics display device, said computer program product as per claim 15, wherein said created graphic symbol, its specified pattern and color attributes is retained within a graphical image visible within one or more or said related objects.

18. A computer program product for use with a graphics display device, said computer program product as per claim 15, wherein the persistence of said graphic symbol and designated one or more color attributes between said first and second objects provides user assistance when traversing a series of graphical templates.

19. A computer program product for use with a graphics display device, said computer program product comprising:

a computer usable medium having computer readable program code means included in said medium:

said computer readable program code means embodying a method for:

creating one or more icons for a first graphical object;

creating a color scheme for said one or more icons;

including at least one of said one or more icons and associated color scheme within said first graphical object;

progressing through a series of graphical objects related to said first graphical object, said one or more related graphical objects to reflect an evolution of progression of development of said first graphical object, and

wherein said progression retains said at least one of said one or more icons and associated color schemes within each of said related graphical objects.

20. A computer program product for use with a graphics display device as per claim 19, wherein said related objects collectively comprise a user assistance wizard.

21. A computer-based system with visually related graphical objects comprising:

one or more graphic symbols retained in computer storage, each of said one or more graphic symbols having a specified pattern and association with at least a first graphical object;

one or more color attributes designated for each of said one or more graphic symbols;

a display visually instantiating one or more graphical objects related to said first graphical object;

said one or more graphic symbols, specified pattern and color attributes replicated within a visual space of said displayed one or more graphical objects related to said first object, and

wherein said one or more related objects are visually recognizable as related due to the persistence of said specified graphic symbol pattern and designated colors.

22. A computer-based system with visually related graphical objects as per claim 21, wherein the persistence of said icon and designated colors between said first and related objects provides user assistance when traversing a series of graphical templates.